

certain leading facts common to pathology in general are set forth; thus, inflammation is briefly described, the newer concepts with their terms, antigens, toxinogens, agglutinogens, precipitinogens, etc., are defined; Ehrlich's "side-chain theory" is given, etc.

The first chapter treats of aberrations in development; these are classified in accordance with the particular germinal membranes from which the different structures of the eye are developed. Each section opens with a very brief description of the normal embryonic development.

Neoplasms are considered in the second chapter. They are divided according as they arise from the cuticular, neural, or mesoblastic layers, metastatic growths, and cysts. Derangements of the fluids and vessels, injuries, inflammation, parasitic diseases, and degenerations occupy the remaining chapters. The appendix describes the practical methods of examining the different structures of the organ.

There are now two good treatises upon the pathology of the eye in the English language—this one and that of Parsons, so that the student need not necessarily be conversant with a foreign language, especially German, for information upon this subject. To say that the descriptions are very brief—*e. g.*, a few lines only are devoted to a consideration of the mode of transference of sympathetic ophthalmitis, which has been the subject of so many hypotheses and discussions—is not to bring adverse criticism, but only to indicate what a wide subject the pathology of the eye has become. The reader who desires a short account of the views held at present upon the different subjects of ocular pathology has in this work a source of information to which he can turn with confidence for answer to his inquiries.

T. B. S.

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COLLECTED PAPERS BY THE STAFF OF ST. MARY'S HOSPITAL, MAYO CLINIC, ROCHESTER, MINNESOTA, 1905-09. Pp. 668; 226 illustrations. Philadelphia and London: W. B. Saunders Company, 1911.

In a *Foreword* the authors state that they trust this volume "will be accepted for just what it purports to be, namely, an indexed collection of reprints." The editor is Mrs. M. H. Mellish, and the editing has been well done.

There are fourteen authors, and their work is represented by sixty-six papers, of varying length, importance, and interest, with the illustrations which have become so familiar a sight in recent years. Thirty papers deal with the alimentary tract, and eleven with the thyroid; while the remaining twenty-five papers are on such subjects as Hernia, surgery of the Genito-urinary Organs, Surgical Technique, etc.

It is impossible to review a work of this kind, and anything we could say would be quite useless. All these papers have been read when they appeared, and are familiar to surgeons everywhere. It is convenient to have them in handy form for reference; and it is pleasant to learn that the volume of reprints for the year 1910 is about to be issued from the same press; but it is almost paralyzing to see the amount of work being done, and to realize the immensity of its executive and administrative aspects.

It used to be a great thing if a surgeon could record so many "centuries" of cases; now, unless one has a few thousand operations from which to draw conclusions, he might as well keep his mouth shut for all the influence his opinion will have with the average "boulder" who storms the popular surgical clinic and "swears by" the surgeon with the most amazing figures. But we venture to think, and feel sure the brilliant chiefs of the surgical clinic of Rochester agree with us, that while dazzling statistics may bring notoriety to a surgeon, it is the power to think, to plan, to act, and to teach which brings him his true renown; that, when all is said and done, one man may know more from an experience of forty cases than another from four hundred or four thousand; that the man is greater than his work; that, when he is gone from his place, his absence will be felt not because another's hands are doing the work once done by his, but because his personality, his forceful character, his leadership is lost, and because these cannot, like the mantle of the prophet, fall on the shoulders of another.

A. P. C. A.

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THE PRACTITIONER'S VISITING LIST FOR 1912. Pp. 192; 3 illustrations. Philadelphia and New York: Lea and Febiger.

AFTER twenty-eight years of continuous existence *The Practitioner's Visiting List* is too well known to the medical profession to require introduction. A more convenient, compact, and useful addition to the equipment of the practising physician than this little volume would be difficult to find.

The bulk of the book consists of pages of blanks so arranged that a daily record of patients seen as well as the patients' accounts may be quickly and easily kept. The adoption of such a system as this would go far toward lessening the not inconsiderable loss sustained by the majority of physicians as the result of careless bookkeeping. Additional pages are arranged for recording data relative to obstetric practice, births, deaths, vaccinations, and other important memoranda.

There is no practising physician who from time to time is not confronted with the urgent necessity for obtaining information on certain points. With this fact in mind, the text portion of *The*